

PETITION
TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

We, the undersigned residents of Canada, draw the attention of the House of Commons to the following:

Whereas: Many Home Children /Child Migrants and their descendents have been victimized by an immigration policy that unfairly and systematically uprooted families and sought to sever essential yet basic extended family ties; and

Whereas: Many Home Children /Child Migrants were, as a result of the system, thrust into difficult and inappropriate personal living circumstances exacerbated by a belief that they were unwanted by parents and, as a result, denied access to siblings and/or other relatives; and

Whereas: Many Home Children /Child Migrants and their descendents have, since their arrival in Canada, sought to protect, preserve and advance Canadian society through public, military and civic service despite the abuses, maltreatment, stigmatization and ostracization that many Home Children suffered from the general public in Canada; and

Whereas: Official apologies have already been extended to Home Children /Child Migrants by the governments of Britain and Australia; and

Whereas: Home Children /Child Migrants and their descendents are deserving of a similar apology from the Government of Canada for its role in the said program.

Therefore, your petitioners call upon Parliament to offer an unequivocal, sincere and public apology to those Home Children /Child Migrants who died while being ashamed of their history and deprived of their family; to the living yet elderly Home Children /Child Migrants who continue to bear the weight of that past; and to the descendants of Home Children /Child Migrants who continue to feel the void passed down through the generations while continuing to search out relatives lost as a result of a system that, in many instances, victimized them under the guise of protection.

SIGNATURES

(Sign your name. Do not print)

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Please Note:

Mr. Greg McClinchey, Executive Assistant to the Hon. Judy A. Sgro, MP York West, his wife & Children, British Home Child Descendants, has reviewed and reformatted this petition. Once completed and certified by the House of Commons, Hon. Judy A. Sgro will be presenting the petition in Parliament.

- Copies of this petition may be printed from my web site.:
<http://canadianbritishhomechildren.weebly.com/apology-petition.html> Use the "print" function at the top of the document on that page. The download function does not work on this site, I cannot fix this.
- Copies of this petition may be downloaded or printed from my Scribe account at:
http://www.scribd.com/LoriOschefski/d/84337521-Petition-to-the-Canadian-Government-Apology-for-the-British-Home-children?secret_password=2m1hfw4speh8blkvwwpa
- Copies can be e-mailed to you by contacting me at Lori.oschefski@gmail.com or if need be, I can post them to you in regular mail. Please provide either your e-mail address or your mailing address.
- Do not sign the first page of the petition as only one page containing the text of the petition will be forwarded on to Ottawa. I will have the signed copy of that first page to which all the signed signature sheets will be attached to. The signatures you gather should begin on Page 2, signature line 1.
- **Only residents of Canada may sign this petition**
- **Signatures must be original only;** they cannot be duplicated, faxed, e-mailed or copied in any form.
- Full mailing addresses must be included.
- Once signed, the signature sheets must be mailed back to me at: Lori Oschefski / 59 Blair Crescent / Barrie, Ontario / L4M 5Y4 Please do not fold or bend the sheets any more then necessary.
- **There is no age restriction** as to who can sign this petition, although there should be a basic understanding of the Home Children and the reasons for this petition
- **Deadline** to have the signed signature sheets returned to me is August 31, 2012. The signed petition needs to be certified before it can be presented. My aim is to have the petition completed and certified by the September 28 2012 "British Home Child Day". However, this deadline is subject to change. We can repeat this process as often as we feel necessary, so it might be after an initial gathering we present and continue to gather signatures for a "new" petition. Minimum requirement to present is 25 signatures.

Our aim is to have at least 5,000 signatures on this petition. Please set a goal to complete at least one page of signatures. Have your family members, children, friends, coworkers and anyone interested sign this petition - (partly signed sheets still count so please send them in!)